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**Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/554,629
Filing Date	October 11, 2000
First Named Inventor	Shinji NAKAHARA
Art Unit	1763
Examiner Name	Ram N. Kackar
Attorney Docket Number	00336/LH

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____
- ii. ☒ Other Consider the Amendments filed 9/3/2003 and 9/8/2003

- b. ☐ Enclosed

- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees**

- The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to
- a. ☒ Deposit Account No. 06-1378

- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

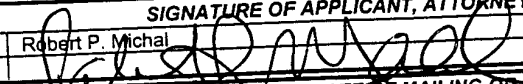
- iii. ☒ Other Any fees in addition to those covered by the enclosed check

- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 enclosed

- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Robert P. Michal	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	35,614
Signature		Date	October 23, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

Express Mailing Label No.: EL 983136895 US
Date of Deposit: October 23, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service, with sufficient postage, under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Marilyn Stults

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